

LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD – WIGGINS LAKE

Held at Sage Township Hall

August 17, 2022

Meeting called to order by Mike Rajt at 6:58 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mike Rajt

Present: Mike Rajt, Ron Taylor, Terry Walters, Rick Dvorak Renee Zelt and Lucy Zeestraten.

Absent: None

Motion to approve July 20, 2022, minutes by: Renee Zelt 2nd Ron Taylor.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Additions to the agenda: None

Correspondence: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Received and file account ledger.

Lucy Zeestraten has 1 unpaid invoice for \$1,512.00 and Rick Buteyn stated he has 1 invoice for the treatment that was done on July 25th and that will be for \$10,894.42. Mike asked is that separate from the Phoslock treatment. Rick said yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rick Buteyn gives his report of the survey of the lake. Biggest issue of the lake is the wild celery growth. A lot of it is floating in big patches around the lake as well as growing under the surface. The wild celery is declining naturally as it does after it goes to seed. So, the height of the weeds isn't causing as much of a problem as it is coming up from the bottom from the boats. We need to talk about harvesting as soon as next week. PLM would be doing the harvesting. Its \$300.00 per hour per machine. Work would take 10 to 20 hours. PLM needs at least 10 hours of work to make it worth their time. Rick doesn't believe that will be an issue. Rick thinks there should be a cap for the hours worked. 10 hours would get most of the floaters cleaned up but cutting additional acreage it might be another 1 to 2 hours per acre. There is probably 5 to 10 acres and keeping it to the worst areas on the lake. Figure another 5 to 6 acres, so 15-to-20-hour range. Roughly \$4,500.00 for the harvest. This is the only option to get the biomass out of the lake. This would only be the main lake. They can not get around the docks. Mike stated that PLM/Progressive would draw up a map that could be posted on the Facebook page so people that are concerned could change their path on the lake a little bit to help. They discussed staying deeper then 5ft especially if you are doing the high-speed boating in the areas that are marked out where the wild celery is. Mostly is in the southern portion of the lake. Ron Taylor puts Rick on the spot. This is the second year we have had this discussion. When it gets to a certain point can't we just treat it and have them get it out of there before it gets to the docks? Rick states that the problem is that sometimes its growing in 8ft of water. That is where a lot of the wake boats are going and that is outside of native planet treatment areas. Ron asked if a harvester go out there and get that. Rick states that a harvester can only go down about 5ft. so if its growing in 8ft of water and its 4ft tall its only giving it a buzz cut. It more affective in the shallower water. Ron Taylor stated if we could do this preemptively and know where to do that, we could have this discussion in a lot sooner then later and not floating in-between the docks. Mike stated that it was discussed to have a more aggressive chemical treatment starting earlier

then we did this year. Mikes terminology not Bre's but Bre was saying they have a witch's brew of cooper products and herbicides that they mix up seems to be affective at stunning the growth if we get to them early enough. The problem is that this year we thought we were early enough doing it in July, and it turned out not so good. Doing the harvesting this year will give us a base line being able to see if its really going to help us or is it just getting the biomass out and a waste of time. Rick said that because it is a native planet, they can't treat past the 5ft contour without a permit amendment. EGLE has been cracking down on cooper product. Not sure EGLE would approve but we could always ask. Mike asked Casey how long it would take to skim a portion of the lake. Casey said it would take a couple of hours. More discussion of where they could launch the harvester. Since the cost of chemicals are going to go up Mike is suggesting that we do 12 hours of harvesting. It will start Monday and will be \$3,600.00 for 12 hours of harvesting. Ron Taylor asked what do the people on the lake want? Someone responded go for it. Someone else stated that they are for it but happened from last year we aren't going to throw out money at it to this year let's try it. Rick said that what happen last year is almost all of it ended up stacking up at the seawalls. Right now, we have big floating pads that haven't ended up at the seawalls yet. Mike said that the problem last year was the wake boats were being used in wake surfing mode on the lake towards the dam. There was discussion on what the wake boats were like this year from last year and there is almost 100% of the wake boat in wake surfing mode on the north side of the lake. That is good for lake. The public agrees in giving this a try. Motion to approve 12 hours of harvesting by Terry Walters. 2nd by Ron Taylor. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ron Taylor, supported by Rick Dvorak.
All in favor, motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:20p.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Lucy Zeestraten, Secretary